

REMARKS

Applicants have studied the Office Action mailed December 8, 2004 and have made amendments to the specification and claims. It is respectfully submitted that the application, as amended, is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Specification:

The Examiner objected to the specification for containing an embedded hyperlink.

Applicants have hereby deleted all hyperlinks from the specification, as indicated above by the amendments to the specification. The hyperlinks were not needed for enablement of the claimed invention, but merely provided additional background information.

Rejection of claim 24 under 35 USC §112, 1st paragraph:

The Examiner rejected claim 24 under 35 U.S.C. §112, 1st paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement because the claim contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The Examiner stated that claim 24 does not specify what polypeptide is being produced and recovered.

Applicants have hereby amended claim 24 to clarify that a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:2 is produced and recovered.

Conclusions

Claim 24 has been amended. As such claims 4, 8-9, and 24-29 remain pending.

The Examiner indicated in the Office Action mailed December 8, 2004 that claims 4, 8-9, and 25-28 are in condition for allowance.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the application and claims are in condition for allowance, and request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejections. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent at (240) 453-3812 should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would advance prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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